

State and local officials the opportunity to make the tough decisions that are before them.

I hope we can pass this bill out today, Mr. Speaker, and finally begin to turn the corner on this very serious public policy problem.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning business, pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 11 a.m.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 27 minutes a.m.) the House stood in recess until 11 a.m.

□ 1100

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 11 a.m.

#### PRAYER

The Reverend Ruth Ward Heflin, Mount Zion Fellowship, Jerusalem, Israel, offered the following prayer:

Holy are You, O Lord; just and righteous in all Your ways. You are awakening and healing our Nation by Your Presence in this crucial hour, in this strategic day, for Your Presence heals, creates and effects change, not only in our Nation but in all the nations of the world.

We declare the hastening and fulfillment of Your plans and purposes for our great Nation through these yielded men and women who have been given authority by You and the people of this country. Be unto us wisdom, knowledge and understanding, and establish peace, justice and righteousness in all our dealings. Let Your love be shared among us. Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory. May Your glory fill these chambers. Hallelujah! In Your name I pray. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. CHRISTENSEN] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHRISTENSEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize Members this morning for 10 1-minute speeches per side.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON].

#### REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states the following:

On the first day of Congress, a Republican House will require Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else; cut committee staffs by one-third; and cut the congressional budget. We have done this.

It goes on to state that in the first 100 days, we will vote on the following items: A balanced budget amendment—we have done this; unfunded mandates legislation—we have done this; line-item veto—we have done this; a new crime package to stop violent criminals—we are doing this now; welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence; family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and protect our children; tax cuts for families to lift Government's burden from middle-income Americans; national security restoration to protect our freedoms; senior citizens' equity act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty; government regulatory reform; commonsense legal reform to end frivolous—lawsuits; and congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

#### SUPPORT OUR NATION'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

(Mr. MANTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, New York City Police Officer Anthony R. Ottoman, captain of the 100th Precinct in Queens, recently wrote an article for New York Newsday about his upcoming visit to the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial in Washington. In his moving and reflective article about police officers who have been killed in the line of duty, Captain Ottoman says, "There is no adequate compensation for their sacrifice \* \* \*. The living can do no less than pay them homage and ensure that their memories are etched forever \* \* \* in our hearts."

As we continue to consider legislation to amend last year's crime bill, we can pay homage to those fallen heroes by heeding the calls of their families and their brave colleagues who remain on the front line in the war on crime.

Mr. Speaker, our law enforcement officers support tough and enforceable penalties for convicted criminals, they

strongly support funding to put 100,000 more cops on the street, and they overwhelmingly favor a ban on the sale and production of semiautomatic assault weapons.

Mr. Speaker, as a former New York City Police Officer, when I vote on crime legislation, I will be guided by the wisdom, experience and knowledge of these police officers.

#### THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the 75th anniversary of the League of Women Voters. Each of us has undoubtedly had some personal connection with the league, whether it is taking part in a candidates forum, or interacting with local League members who have reached consensus in a study group.

Historically the league grew out of the women's suffrage movement. In 1920 the founding of the League of Women Voters coincided with the ratification of the 19th amendment which gave women the right to vote.

Although only 26 percent of the women voted in that first election, the league immediately tackled this problem with measures such as initiating "Know Your Government Studies," and with an active role on issues that are important to women and all people. In those early years this meant issues such as the welfare of mothers and children, equal compensation for women which culminated in the Civil Service Reclassification Act of 1923, as well as child labor law. The passage of the motor-voter bill last year is a tribute to their historical position of increasing voting participation.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of my membership in the League, and I hope others will join in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the League of Women Voters.

#### MORE POLICE FOR WEST VIRGINIA UNDER LAST YEAR'S CRIME BILL

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the bill that is on the floor that calls itself a crime bill because it undoes the real crime bill that was passed last year.

One of the good parts of that crime bill came true last week in West Virginia which we saved 118 new police officers for communities across our State, bringing to a total of 170 police officers that have already come to our State and with hundreds more scheduled to come. Our own State police received 13 police officers. Yet under this bill they would not be eligible for additional officers.

Some say this bill on the floor today makes it more flexible because you can buy equipment, but we already have programs to buy equipment for police departments. Indeed what the police departments need most right now are more police.

Somerset Maugham once wrote that he "conducted his actions in regard to the police officer standing on the corner." These officers are getting on our streets and our corners now. One hundred and seventy new officers in West Virginia alone testified to the fact that we want to keep that intact and not vote for this bill today.

#### GEORGIA POLICE WELCOME BLOCK GRANT FUNDS TO FIGHT CRIME

(Mr. NORWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute).

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of giving local law enforcement the power to do what they think is best. That is what my sheriff, Charlie Webster of Richmond County, GA, wants.

The bill we are debating gives State and local governments the funds to fight crime as they see fit. That is what all 19 of my sheriffs want. The other side will argue for strings to be attached. They will argue that we here in Washington truly know best how to fight crime. What a laugh. Look at the District of Columbia.

I ask the people back home to listen closely to these arguments. One side wants to give you the power to fight crime; one side will tell you that they know what is best for you. It is as if they did not hear you at all last November. Local law enforcement officers know what they need to do to fight crime, and they absolutely do not need bureaucrats here in Washington telling them how to do their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support local law enforcement by supporting our crime bill.

#### IN AMERICA THE PEOPLE RULE, NOT THE IRS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, after hard knocks on their door, a Chicago woman really smelled the coffee. Three IRS agents demanded—yes, demanded to see her daughter. She said, "My daughter is not home."

They demanded to see her daughter. She was frightened, she called her husband, her husband called the accountant, and the accountant called the IRS. They said she did not report her interest on her savings. The IRS said it was a gift. They said, "We don't believe you. Prove it." They said, "I want to see your daughter."

Their daughter was in second grade at the local elementary school.

The IRS demanded: They did not ask. They said, "Prove it. We don't believe you." They demanded.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members to cosponsor H.R. 390. The taxpayer is innocent until proven guilty, and it is time that Congress started making some demands on the IRS. The people are boss in America, not the IRS.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). The Chair wishes to admonish the people watching our proceedings from the gallery that no demonstration is appropriate.

#### ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS FOR CRIME LEGISLATION

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, this morning, Academy Award nominations were announced.

And it made me think, we need a new category for the so-called anticrime proposals we're debating.

We could call it, best performance by Members of Congress in pretending to make our communities safer.

Sure, nominees would be hard to choose.

It could be trampling on the fourth amendment to make illegal searches easier.

Or greatly increasing the chances of executing an innocent person.

Or talking of repealing the Brady bill and assault weapons ban.

And finally, this week, passing legislation that will very likely take police officers off the streets of America.

In fact, too many of our colleagues could win an award for saying yes to the gun lobby, but saying no to our Constitution.

So, we might have to wait until March 27 to see who wins an Oscar.

But we know today who loses because of these fake, ineffective crime proposals.

Our children lose. Our families lose. Our constituents lose. Every American who wants a safer neighborhood loses—in a category that is far more important than favorite movies.

#### CRIME LEGISLATION IS FOR THE PEOPLE, NOT FOR CRIMINALS

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, last year the guardians of the old order rammed through the criminal's crime bill. It was a piece of legislation more concerned about the rights of violent criminals than the rights of law-abiding Americans. It was a bill that offered violent criminals and repeat offenders endless appeals and technical loopholes. It was a bill full of phony

prevention programs and wasteful pork. It was a bill that said violent criminals are not bad people; instead they are really just misunderstood, and if we all give them a group hug, maybe they will mend their evil ways.

Mr. Speaker, criminals do not need a crime bill. The American people do. Crime has taken over America's streets, and Americans want to take those streets back. So we in the new majority offer a citizens crime bill, a bill that actually makes criminals pay for their crimes. We want to put a stop to endless appeals for death row inmates. We have had enough of repeat criminals going free due to legal technicalities.

Mr. Speaker, the American people demand a real crime bill, and in this Contract With America they will get it.

□ 1115

#### THE REPUBLICAN CRIME PACKAGE

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Crime and punishment, it is all the rage here in Washington. But if we are going to build a strong foundation to defeat crime in America and turn back this tide, it is going to take a little site prep like any other building of a foundation.

This grand new monument to the Republican crime control effort will be a tower of concrete on a foundation of sand if we pass this section of the crime bill. It is a single-minded rush. It ignores other needs.

Drugs in the schools? Build prisons. At-risk and abused kids? Build prisons. Slow response time? Not enough cops? Build prisons.

Let us not rush to build symbolic monuments. It will take more to turn back the tide of crime in America.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). The Chair advises Members that the leadership has indicated we will have 10 Members on each side for 1-minute speeches this morning.

#### MORE ON THE CRIME PACKAGE

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, today we are continuing debate on the crime control package, one of the items in our Contract With America. This package is unique because it actively will work to prevent, catch, and convict violent criminals that roam our neighborhoods. No more hug-a-thug bills or phony prevention programs like midnight basketball. No more endless appeals or technical loopholes in the courtroom.